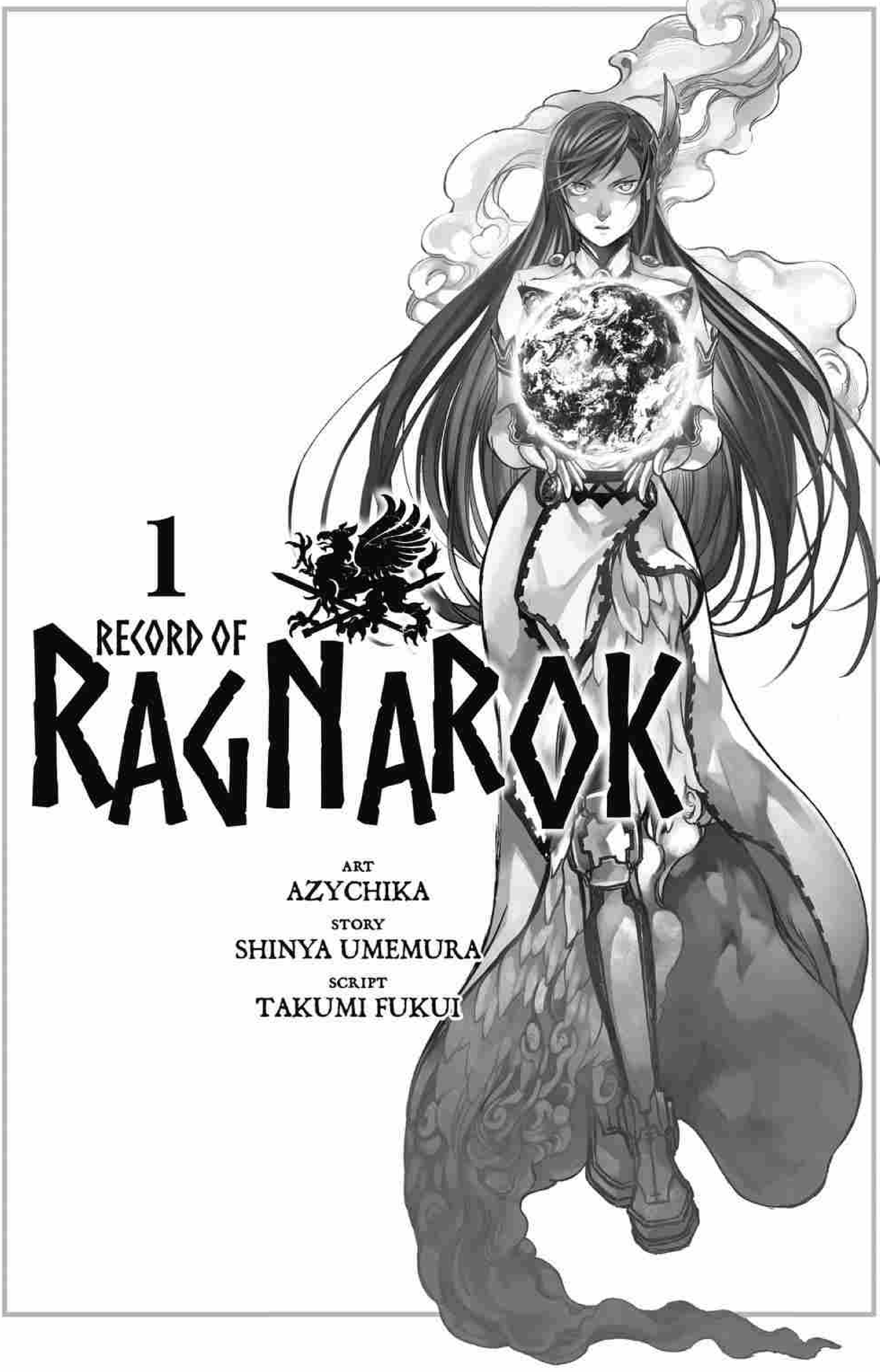
1

RECORD OF

RAGNAROK

ART
AZYCHIKA
STORY
SHINYA UMEMURA
SCRIPT
TAKUMI FUKUI



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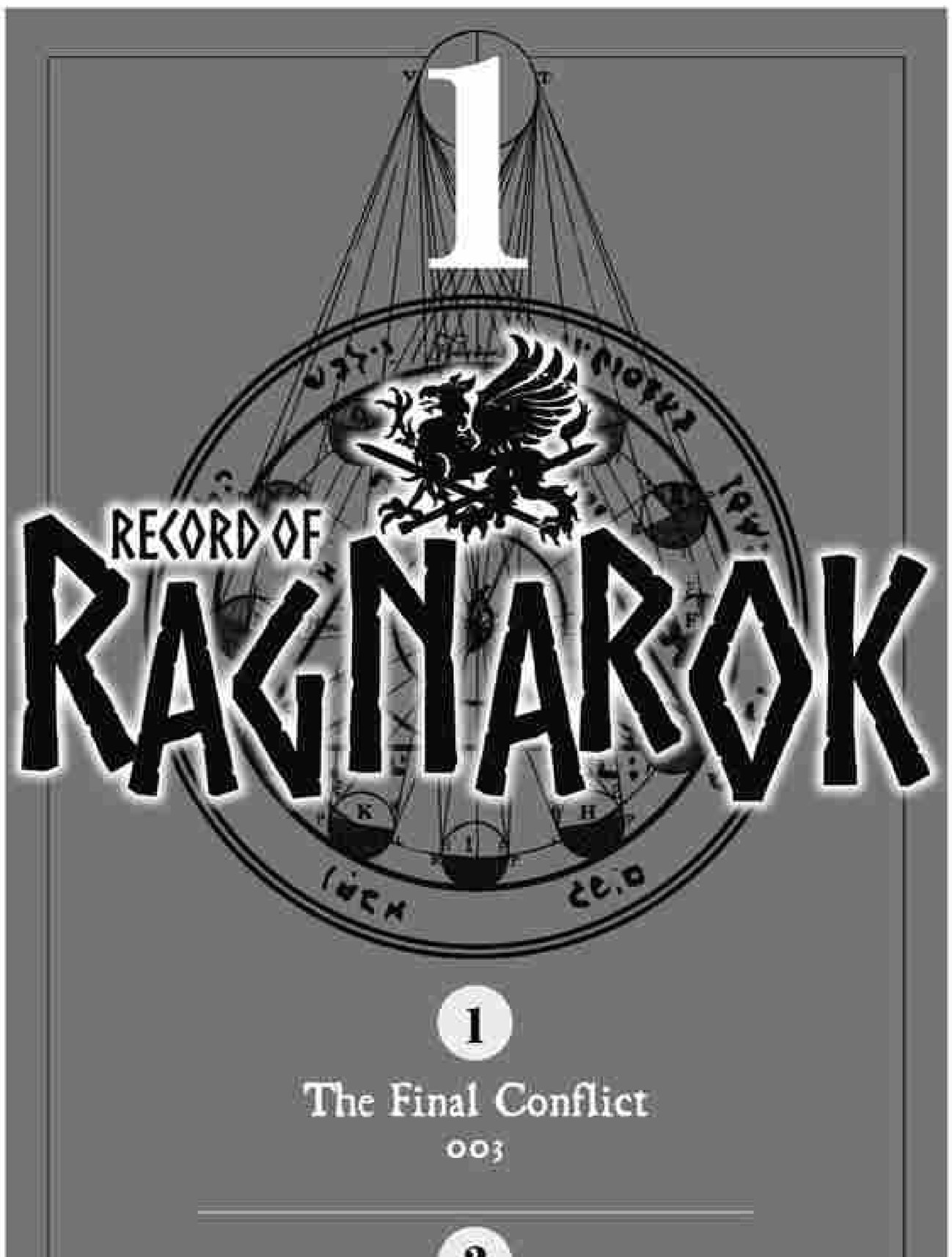


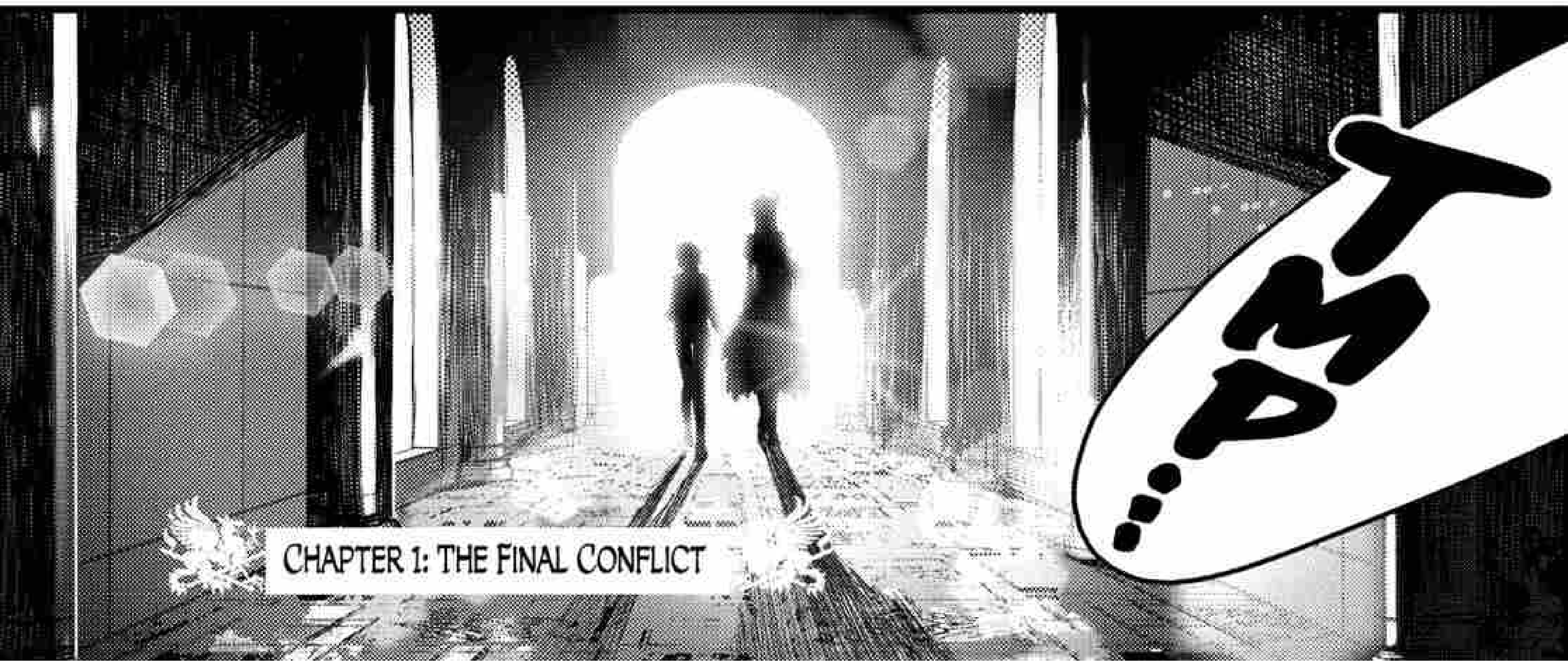
1
The Final Conflict
003

2
Ultimate Gods vs. Ultimate Humans
075

3
Archrival
131

4
Thirteen Gods and Thirteen Humans
165

HUMANITY'S SEVEN-MILLION-YEAR HISTORY IS ABOUT TO COME TO AN END.



CHAPTER 1: THE FINAL CONFLICT

GEIR
YOUNGEST OF THE 13 VALKYRIE SISTERS

IT'S TIME...

...BRUNHILDE!

SWIPE

BRUNHILDE
ELDEST OF THE 13 VALKYRIE SISTERS

NO! THIS CATACLYSM WILL BE CAUSED ...

TMP

TMP

AN ASTEROID IMPACT?

...A NUCLEAR WAR?

THE CAUSE OF THIS APOCALYPSE... IS IT...

OR PERHAPS AN ALIEN INVASION?

...THAT HUMANITY IS ABOUT TO FACE ITS DOOM!

...BY NONE OTHER THAN HUMANITY'S CREATORS!

IT IS BY THE WILL OF THE GODS THEMSELVES...

COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE COUNCIL OF VALHALLA

MURMUR

HMM

HRMM

MUTTER

PLOP

THERE WE GO.

HUFF...

HMPH...

HRFF...

HO HO HO...

GOOD GIRL!

PUR- RRR- RR... ♡

MY FELLOW GODS!

KTOK

WELL, THEN...

LET US BEGIN THE CONFERENCE.

IT'S BEEN A THOUSAND YEARS SINCE WE LAST HELD ONE OF THESE.

ZEUS
(GREEK PANTHEON)
VALHALLA COUNCIL
CHAIRMAN

ONCE EVERY MILLENIUM, THE GODS OF THE WORLD ASSEMBLE FOR...

...THE HUMAN-EXTINCTION CONFERENCE!

ALL THE GODS...

...OF THE ENTIRE WORLD ARE HERE!

YIKES!

WHAT A SIGHT!

DON'T YOU AGREE, HILDE?

...

I ASK YOU ALL...

NOW...

DO WE PUT AN END TO THEM?

...OR NAY?

BOO!

YAY...

OK!!

SHALL WE GIVE HUMANITY ANOTHER MILLENNIUM OF EXIST-ENCE?

...SHOW THEIR WILL.

LET EACH GOD...

YEEEAH...

MUTTR

MUMBL

MUTTR

I SAY END THEM!

SHIVA
(HINDU PANTHEON)
GOD OF DESTRUCTION
AND CREATION

ROLL...

I'VE BEEN WATCHING THEM CLOSELY...

...AND THEY'VE SHOWN *NO* SIGNS OF IMPROVE-MENT.

IT'S A TOTAL DRAG TRYING TO GUIDE THEM.

LET'S WIPE THE SLATE CLEAN...

...AND LET SOME OTHER SPECIES EVOLVE!

♪

H-HE CAN'T BE SERI-OUS!

IN-DEED ...

SHIVA IS RIGHT.

THE PAST THOUSAND YEARS...

...HAVE SEEN THE WORLD BECOME INCREASINGLY UGLY.

APHRODITE
(GREEK PANTHEON)
GODDESS OF BEAUTY

TRASH AND OIL IN THE SEAS.

THE FORESTS, GONE. ENTIRE SPECIES, EXTINCT.

OR PERHAPS I SHOULD SAY...

...THEY'RE A PLAGUE THAT WILL BRING ABOUT THEIR OWN END.

HUMAN-KIND IT-SELF...

...IS A CANCER EATING AWAY AT LIFE ON EARTH.

OOOH

INDEED!

THERE'S NO SAVING THEM!

THEY DO NOTHING BUT HARM!

APHRO-DITE'S RIGHT!

AAAA

THE WILL OF THE GODS...

...CANNOT BE CHAL-LENGED.

IF THE COUNCIL'S VERDICT...

...IS UNANI-MOUS...

...THEN HUMANITY...

HMM...

THEN...

...WILL CEASE TO EXIST!

...LIKE IT OR NOT...

AND THERE'S NOTHING...

...THAT CAN STOP IT!

...WE HAVE A DECISION.

IT AP-PEARS...

SWOOF

...AN *END* TO...

...DE-CLARE...

I HERE-BY...

AND SO...

SWIP

ONE MOMENT, SIR!

SKREECH

TMP

?!

WHAT'S THIS...?

HMMM...?

...

THAT'S A VALKYRIE!

TMP

TMP

A VALKY-RIE?!

WHERE DOES SHE THINK SHE'S GOING?!

TMP

TMP

WHAT THE...?

YOU CAN'T ASK THE GODS FOR A TIME-OUT!

W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING, HILDE?!

...I HUMBLY ASK I BE ALLOWED TO SAY A FEW WORDS.

WITH REVERENCE TO THE GODS...

YOU MIND YOUR MANNERS...

...BRUN-HILDE!

TUP

WAAH!

KNOW YOUR PLACE, DEMI-GOD!

HOW DARE YOU BARGE INTO A CONVERSATION AMONG THE GODS?!

ODIN
(NORSE PANTHEON)
SUPREME NORSE GOD

HEY! DON'T IGNORE US!

...IS SO...

HOWEVER, SIMPLY ANNIHILATING THEM..

TMP

HUMANITY'S INSOLENCE AND SAVAGERY IS INDEED UNPARDONABLE.

YOU'RE NOT WORTHY OF THE ALL-FATHER!

WE'LL TAKE YOU ON!

...

YOU WANNA GO? HUH? YOU WANT A PIECE OF US?

DOES HUMANITY DESERVE TO EXIST FOR ANOTHER THOUSAND YEARS?

MAY I SUGGEST TESTING THEM? YOU CAN EVEN DISPLAY...

...YOUR DIVINE MIGHT AND MERCY WHILE DOING SO.

...

...CLICHE.

TWI

K

ZIN

ZIN

NO... THERE'S A MORE EFFECTIVE WAY.

OH YEAH?

A TEST? LIKE ANOTHER FLOOD?

OR PERHAPS AN EARLY ICE AGE?

HRMM

LET'S HEAR IT AL-READY!!

MURMUR

HMM

WHAT DOES SHE HAVE IN MIND?

WHAT ARE YOU GETTING AT?!

HMPH

THE GODS VERSUS HUMANITY! THE FINAL CONFLICT! RAGNA-ROK!

GO ON

...IN ARTICLE 62...

...PARA-GRAPH 15...

...OF THE VALHALLA CONSTI-TUTION AS...

R...

RAGNA-WHAT...?

DEFINED IN THE EXTRA EXTRA-ORDINARY CLAUSE...

...BETWEEN THE GODS AND HUMAN-KIND!

...A SERIES OF ONE-ON-ONE SHOW-DOWNS...

RAGNAROK. THE GODS VERSUS HUMANITY. THE FINAL CONFLICT.

SINCE HUMAN-KIND'S CREATION, THIS LAW HAS NEVER BEEN INVOKED...

BUT IN THE EVENT HUMANKIND IS VICTORIOUS, THEY WILL BE GRANTED ANOTHER THOUSAND YEARS OF EXISTENCE.

THE MOMENT HUMANKIND LOSES SEVEN BATTLES, THEIR FATE IS SEALED.

EACH SIDE HAS A TEAM OF 13 FIGHTERS.

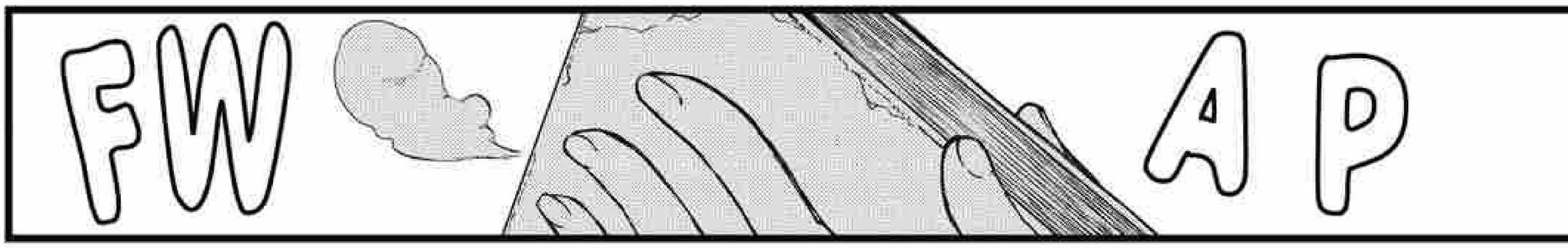
FIRST TO SEVEN VICTORIES, WINS!

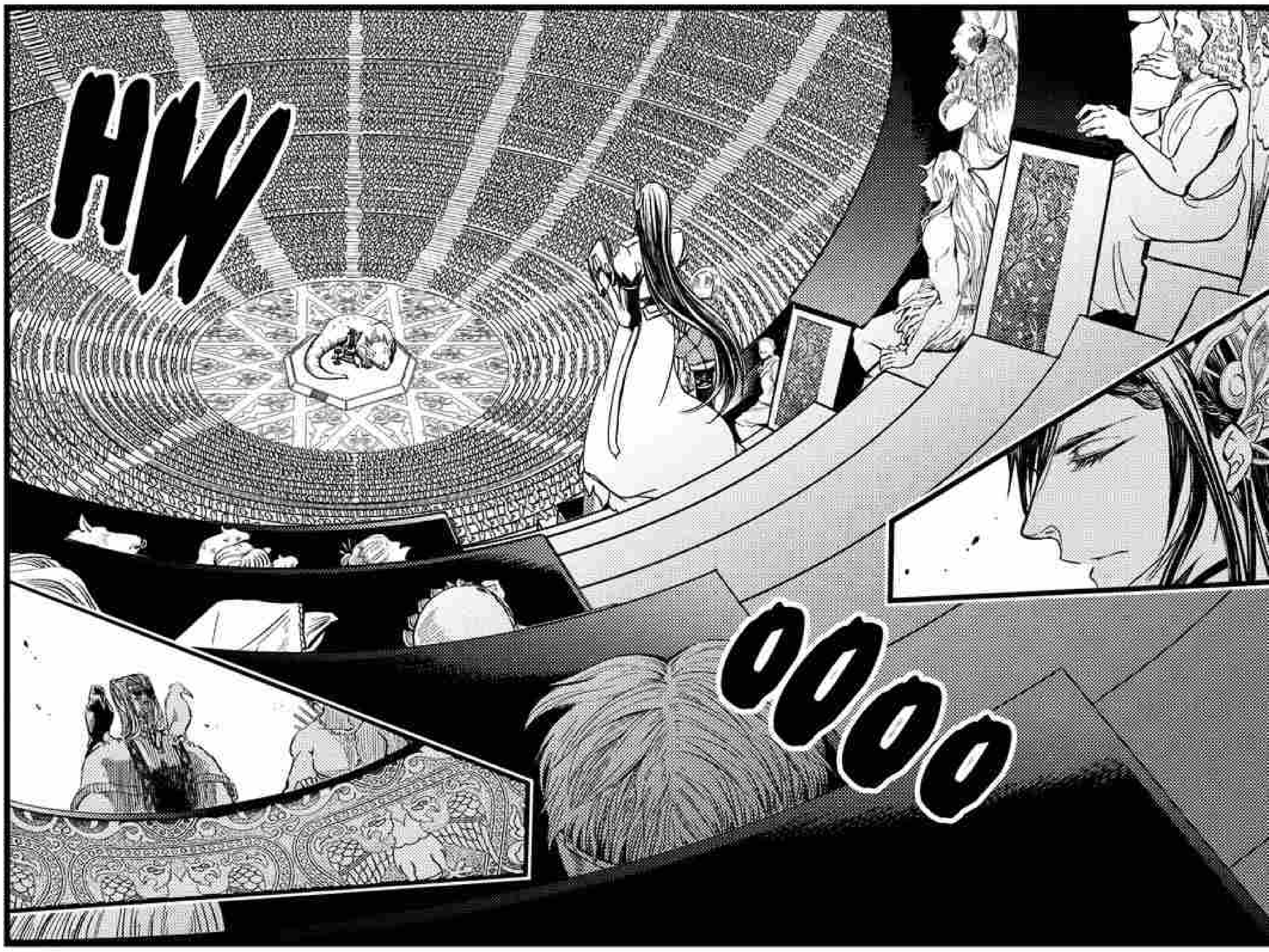
...FOR THE SIMPLE REASON...

...FOR A HUMAN TO DEFEAT A GOD!

...THAT IT IS UTTERLY IMPOS-SIBLE...

IT IS IN EFFECT A LEGAL CLAUSE INCLUDED MERELY FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT OF THE GODS.





IT'D BE A WASTE OF TIME!

I FORGOT THERE EVEN *WAS* SUCH AN ARCHAIC RULE.

WHY GIVE THEM THE OPPOR-TUNITY?

IT WOULD HARDLY BE A CONTEST AT ALL.

THAT'S RIGHT!

...

HUH...?

...THE *AVOIDANCE* OF ANY DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH HUMANS... IS THAT RIGHT?

SO THE GODS' WILL IS HUMANITY'S EXTINCTION... *AND*...

BY ANY CHANCE...

"REFUSAL TO MEET FACE-TO-FACE."

"EXTINCTION WITHOUT CONFRON-TATION."

UH, HILDE ...?

IF SO, I APOLOGIZE.

...

PLEASE, IGNORE MY REMARKS.

...

LET'S JUST FORGET ABOUT THE RAGNAROK CLAUSE...

S-STOP... PLEASE!

THEY'LL DO AWAY WITH *YOU* BEFORE THEY DO IT TO THE HUMANS!

LET'S APOLOGIZE, HILDE! ... HILDE?!

LISTEN TO YOUR-SELF!

PFFT...

...AFRAID?

ARE YOU...

HA HA HA!

TEE HEE...

HMM—

...SHRUGGING OFF THE MISCHIEF OF A YOUNG CHILD.

KEK KEK KEK...

HUR HUR...

THE SARDONIC LAUGHTER OF THE GODS, LIKE THAT OF A SLIGHTLY IRRITATED FATHER...

HOO HOO...

HYUK HYUK...

A STRANGE SOUND RIPPLED THROUGH-OUT THE CHAMBER.

YAH HAH...

HMM—

BRUN-HILDE WAS CERTAIN...

HEE HEE...

NOT YET.

HA HA HA!

TH-THEY AREN'T ANGRY ...?

W-WHAT'S THAT NOISE ...?

SKRCH

KRRK

...?

WHAM

THMP

TMP

TMP

BOM!

EH HEH...

GRRR

...CHALLENGE THE DIGNITY AND PRIDE OF THE CREATORS OF ALL THINGS THAN...

RRR YRRG

RRRK

KCHK

KRAK

SNAP SNAP

...THAT NO OTHER WORDS COULD MORE EASILY AND DEEPLY...

"ARE YOU AFRAID?"

...WAS AN UN-SPEAK-ABLE HUMILI-ATION!

A

HOW DARE A VALKYRIE SPEAK TO US LIKE THAT?!

KNOW YOUR PLACE!

R

A

A

A

DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?

HOW DARE YOU!

YOU LITTLE ...!

A

A

THE MEREST *SUGGES-TION* THAT THE GODS FEAR HUMANITY...

A

...WAS COR-RECT!

YES... BRUN-HILDE...

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

YEOW! THE GODS ARE PISSED!

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO, HILDE?!

DIVINE TEMPERS...

...THAN HUMAN ONES.

...SNAP FAR MORE EASILY...

RAGNA-ROK, EH...?

PET

I SEE.

HO HO HO...

PAT PAT

THAT'S AN INTERESTING PROPOSAL.

?

BAFF

HOW...

IT SURE IS.

YUP.

...UT-TERLY...

BWOP

WEEE

KRRN

...AMUS-ING!

...ARE ALSO LONGING TO WIT-NESS...

...ALL OF YOU...

AND I'M SURE THAT...

...THE WRATH...

...OF THE GODS!

SHALL WE BATTLE HUMAN-KIND?!

WHAT SAY YOU, MY FELLOW DEITIES?

HHAAAAAAAAARAA

AND THAT IS HOW...

...RAGNAROK, THE FINAL CONFLICT BETWEEN THE GODS AND HUMANITY...

...BEGAN!

TP

TP

TP

SLUMP...

GEIR...?

DID YOU HAVE TO DO THAT?! CHALLENGING THEIR DECISION? ANGERING THE GODS?!

WE COULD'VE BEEN KILLED!

I THOUGHT WE WERE FINISHED ...

...FOR SURE, SIS!

GEIR...

AS AN APPRENTICE VALKYRIE, YOU MAY NOT UNDERSTAND THIS YET, BUT...

...GOES DEEPER THAN THE ONE THEY HAVE WITH THE GODS.

...THE RELATIONSHIP THAT HUMANS HAVE WITH THE VALKYRIE...

...FOR-SAKE THEM?

HOW CAN WE...

THAT'S WHY YOU HAVE SUCH EMPATHY FOR THEM...

...ISN'T IT?

THE TRAGIC VALKYRIE WHO ONCE...

HILDE...

...WAS TRANS-FORMED INTO A HUMAN.

HEY, BRUN-HILDE!

FLAP

THAT'S A SILLY QUES-TION, GEIR.

THE GODS' FIRST CHOICE HAS TO BE...

BUT CAN HUMANKIND ACTUALLY WIN?

WHO WILL THE GODS SEND OUT FIRST?

I HEARD YOU CAUSED QUITE A SCENE AT THE CONFERENCE.

INCUBUS
LUST DEMON

THEY'RE CAPABLE OF ANYTHING...

...SO YOU BETTER WATCH YOUR BACK.

GR AB

THE GODS ARE CRUEL AND MERCILESS.

A BUNCH OF EGO-MANIACS.

...IF YOU WANT.

I COULD PROTECT YOU, BRUNHILDE...

IT ALL DEPENDS ON YOUR ATTITUDE.

SLURP

KEH

KEH

SHF...

I WONDER HOW YOU'LL SOUND IN BED...

THE EVER-PROUD AND HAUGHTY BRUNHILDE...

THAT'S IT. ON YOUR KNEES...

I'VE ALWAYS HAD A THING FOR YOU. KEH KEH KEH...

KEH KEH KEH KEH!

HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE!

OH, I'M NOT BENDING MY KNEE TO *YOU.*

EH...?

SPSH

SPSH SPSH

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME...

TBL

DRIP

...MY LORD THOR.

THOR
(NORSE PANTHEON)
GOD OF THUNDER

W-WHAT'S HE DOING HERE...?!

...TAKE A KNEE TOO!

I-I'D B-BETTER...

THAT'S THOR?! THE GOD OF THUNDER?

...!

THOR...!

TMP

TMP

WHAT ARE YOU PLAYING AT...

...BRUN-HILDE?

I'M SORRY...?

WHAT-EVER IT IS...

...

OTHERWISE *I'LL KILL YOU.*

JUST MAKE IT WORTH MY WHILE.

HUH?

DID I SEEM CALM TO YOU?

GOOD...

HOW DID YOU STAY SO CALM?!

I ALMOST PEED MYSELF!

I...

THMP

SHUDDER

SHUDDER

WHEW

TWITCH

PIP

DON'T WORRY, GEIR...

WHAT HUMAN CAN BEAT A GOD ANYWAY?!

THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE, SIS!

HILDE ...?

COME! WE NEED TO SELECT THE *13 ULTIMATE WARRIORS* FROM SEVEN MILLION YEARS OF HUMAN HISTORY!

VE

PROBABLY THE MOST POWER-FUL...

NO... *DEFI-NITELY* THE MOST BRUTAL AND POWER-FUL...

I KNOW HE CAN DO IT!

I'VE ALREADY CHOSEN OUR FIRST REPRESEN-TATIVE.

SWP

SWP

SWP

WHO?

...

WAIT!

...ON THE BATTLE-FIELD.

...WARRIOR I'VE EVER MET...

KSSHHH

RRRR

WAAA

ZZZK

THE MOMENT THAT I BLOW THIS *GJALLAR-HORN...*

I'VE WAITED AGES FOR THIS VERY MOMENT!

HEIMDALL
(NORSE PANTHEON)
WATCHMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE

...RAG-NAROK!

...TO SIGNAL THE START OF...

RAAAAHH

IS EVERY-BODY RRRR-READY?!

ROOO

IT'S A FIGHT TO THE *DEATH!*

OOO

THE RULES ARE SIMPLE!

IN OTHER WORDS, THE *ETERNAL OBLITERATION* OF ONE COMBATANT'S EXISTENCE WILL DECIDE THE MATCH!

OOOOOO

IN ROUND ONE...

...REPRESENTING THE GODS...

OOO

HERE WE GO...

... HILDE.

AR

...THE MAN...

RAAAH

...ANY GOD WOULD WANT TO SEE...

...GO NO-HOLDS-BARRED!

WHNK

...CAN SHATTER MOUN-TAINS!

ZWE

HIS HAMMER, MJÖLNIR...

PFF

PFF

THMP

THMP

IF IT AIN'T HIM, THEN WHO?!

WF

F

F

THE THUNDER BERSER-KER!

THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR OF THE NORSE PAN-THEON!

HE LIVES TO FIGHT ...

...AND DIE IN BAT-TLE!

THE MIGHTY ...

...THOR!!

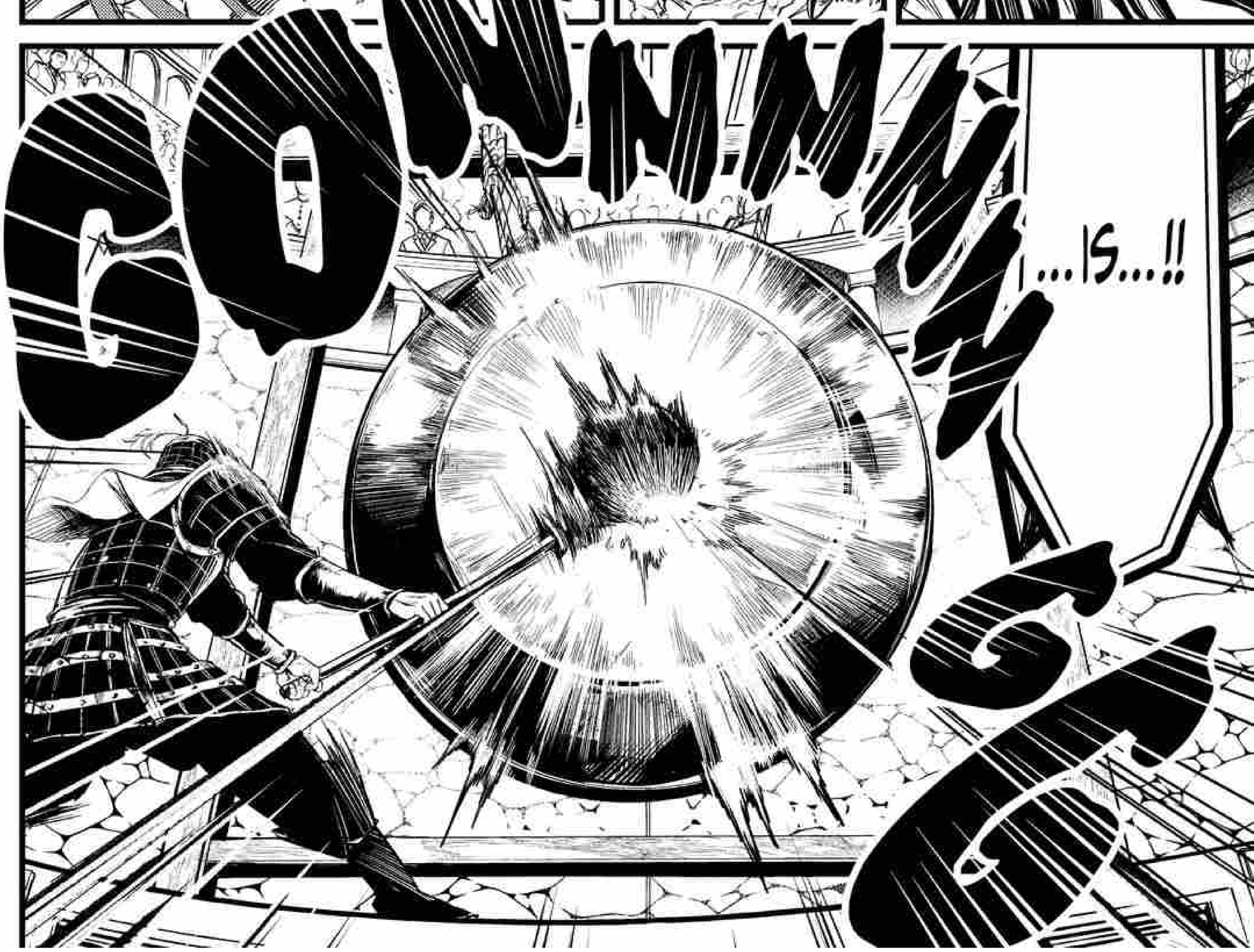
RAAAHH

CRUSH THEM...

...TO DEATH!

YAAAAAAHH
EEEEE...

...FOOLISH ENOUGH TO CHALLENGE A GOD...
AND THE HUMAN CHAMPION ...
AS I EXPECTED, THE GODS CHOSE THOR FIRST.


BOOM
...IS...!!

KLNG
KLANG

DOOM
DOOM
DOOM

WOOO

RA NO A

NO !! A

A A A A

BWOOOOSH

TA DM

HERE HE IS...

...TO KEEP HUMANITY'S HOPES ALIVE!

...COULD IT BE ANYONE ELSE BUT HIM?!

SNAP

TELL ME...

RIP

RRIP...

RRIP

RRIP...

KRRR

KRAKK

CHINA'S ULTIMATE HERO...!

BU
FENG
XIAN

呂布
Lü Bu
FENGXIAN

AAAAA
AAAAA
AAAAA
AAAAA

RAAAAAA AAAHH

LÜ BU
CHAMPION OF
HUMANITY

THOR
CHAMPION OF
THE GODS

TDM TDM TDM TDM TDM TDM TDM TDM

WAAAA

GRRR

GRA

A

A

GRUMBL

GRUMBL

MUTTR

MUTTR

H

NAMU AMIDA BUTSU ...

NAMU AMIDA BUTSU ...

YOU'RE SENDING THEM OFF TO...

CEASE YOUR PRAYERS, HUMAN.

RAGNAROK-ROUND 1

...THE VERY GODS...

...WE MUST DEFEAT.

THE BATTLE BEGINS!

CHAPTER 1 ~ END

RECORD OF
RAGNAROK